

NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION INFORMATION LETTER

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In this issue of the Information Letter the table of "Contents" has been transferred to the last page and hereafter will appear on that page.

LABELING REQUIREMENTS UNDER MAPES AMENDMENT

Canners who are now considering the placing of orders for labels for next season's pack have written to know what changes in labels will be necessary under the Mapes amendment to the Food and Drug Act.

There is only one positive labeling requirement in the amendment, and that is the requirement that products which do not meet the standard to be established by the Department of Agriculture shall be definitely labeled with a designation to be established by the Secretary of Agriculture for the identification of substandard goods.

Products that meet the standard, or are above the standard, can be distributed under the identical labels in use prior to the passage of the amendment, assuming, of course, that they meet the general requirements of the Food and Drug Act. It is only on that presumably limited part of the output which fails to meet the standard and must therefore be classed as substandard, that a specific labeling requirement is imposed.

FARM PRODUCTS RELEASED FROM BEETLE QUARANTINE

All restrictions on the interstate movement of farm products in the area covered by the Japanese beetle quarantine were removed by the Plant Quarantine and Control Administration beginning with October 1. Restrictions on the movement interstate of cut flowers and other portions of plants remain in force until and including October 15. Restrictions on the movement of nursery, ornamental, and greenhouse stock and all other plants (except cut flowers and portions of plants without roots and free from soil) are enforced throughout the year and are not affected by this order.

TARIFF COMMISSION ADOPTS NEW PROCEDURE

The reorganized Tariff Commission, the personnel of which has been completed with the reappointment of Lincoln Dixon, of Indiana, as the sixth member and the designation of Thomas W. Page as Vice-Chairman, has announced new rules of practice and procedure.

Under the new procedure the burden of proof as to the need of an investigation and of rate revisions rests upon the applicants for investigations. Heretofore the Commission has itself investigated revision applications and included its preliminary findings of fact in a statement of information before public hearings were called.

The new rules provide that the applicant for an investigation submit to the Commission all the information available to him which he believes to be pertinent. The Commission will then give public notice of the application and as soon thereafter as its duties permit will notify the applicant of its decision either to order or not to order the investigation requested. Public notice will be given of the time and place for all hearings.

The Commission has indicated that information of the character indicated below should be filed with the application for investigation.

1. Comparability of the domestic and foreign article(s) and the degree of competition between them.
2. Tendency of domestic production and sales, whether upward or downward, and the tendency of imports.
3. Tendency of cost of production and prices in recent years.
4. Evidence of difference between foreign and domestic costs of production of the article(s) involved.
5. Areas of greatest competition between the imported and domestic products and the principal market or markets in the United States.
6. Transportation costs and other costs incident to delivery of the article(s) to the principal market or markets of the United States and/or other relevant factors that constitute, in the opinion of the applicant, an advantage or disadvantage in competition.
7. Any other information which the applicant believes the commission should consider.

Without excluding other factors and with a view to assisting the interested parties in preparing for the public hearings, when ordered, the Commission states that attention should be concentrated upon the following:

Facts which should be considered in appraising the competitive strength in the markets of the United States of the foreign and domestic articles.

Facts bearing upon the degree of likeness or similarity as between grades, classes, and price groups of the American products and the imported article. Any direct evidence as to comparative unit costs will con-

stitute one of the main problems to be considered, but bare factory costs consisting of an estimate of outlay for raw materials, wages paid, and other direct charges incident to processes of production will not entirely suffice. Secondary costs, such as depreciation, depletion, charges for rent, interest on investments, cost of containers, transportation charges, insurance and general expenses, must all be reckoned into the cost equation.

Additional factors are: Principal competing country; principal American market or markets; representative period of time for cost inquiry; the extent to which invoice or wholesale prices are reliable evidence of foreign costs; any other evidence of unit production costs, both foreign and domestic; domestic areas or producing units to be selected as being competitive with the imported article; other significant advantages or disadvantages in competition. Finally, parties interested appearing at public hearings are expected to present definite and affirmative information rather than generalities and conjectures.

In the public hearings witnesses will be sworn and no documentary evidence will be accepted unless verified under oath by the person offering the same to be a true statement of the facts contained therein. Evidence, oral or written, submitted in the hearings, shall, upon the order of the Commission, be subject to verification from the books, papers and records of the parties interested and from any other available sources of information.

FORECAST OF CANNED FOOD SHIPMENTS

Shipment of canned food products, including catsup, jams, jellies, olives, pickles, preserves, etc., during the fourth quarter of 1930 are forecast by the Shipper's Regional Advisory Boards at 62,210 carloads, as compared with actual shipments of 64,311 carloads in the fourth quarter of 1929, a decrease of 3.3 percent.

Shipments of the 29 principal commodities of all kinds during the fourth quarter of 1930, it is estimated, will be 7.3 percent below the corresponding period of 1929.

HEARINGS ANNOUNCED ON SOUTHWESTERN CASES

The Interstate Commerce Commission has scheduled hearings at St. Louis on November 6, Dallas on November 17, and Tulsa on November 24, on the Consolidated Southwestern Cases, which were reopened by an order of the Commission on June 2.

The reopening is largely attributable, according to the Commission's announcement, to the recent decision in which the Commission revised the class rates within what is known as Western Trunk Line territory and between that territory and so-called Official Classification territory to the east thereof. The rates established pursuant to the Consolidated Southwestern Cases are not in entire harmony with those since prescribed in the Western Trunk Line case, and some revision may be necessary to bring the two closely related territories into accord.

WHOLESALE TRADE IN AUGUST

Reports to the Federal Reserve System by wholesale firms selling groceries, dry goods, hardware, and drugs indicate that in all these lines sales in the month of August were considerably smaller than a year ago. Reports for the first eight months of the year combined also show decreases as compared with last year in the four lines of wholesale trade. The sales of wholesale grocers, by districts, show the following changes:

	August, 1930, compared with August, 1929	January 1-August 31, 1930, compared with January 1-August 31, 1929
	Percent	Percent
Boston	-16	-6
New York	-17	-4
Philadelphia	-9	-4
Cleveland	-9	-5
Richmond	-10	-4
Atlanta	-18	-11
Chicago	-7	-3
St. Louis	-12	-7
Minneapolis	-7	-1
Kansas City	-8	-6
Dallas	-12	-6
San Francisco	-7	0
Total	-10	-4

CORN BORER STATUS, 1925-1930

Under the auspices of the U. S. Bureau of Entomology and the Plant Quarantine and Control Administration, a conference on European corn borer was held at the headquarters of the Corn Borer Project at Toledo, Ohio, September 24 and 25. The meeting was attended by some 250 research workers and quarantine officials, county agricultural agents and others from the Federal Government and from the Middle West States interested in some phase of the corn borer control work.

Members of the conference were supplied with a summary of data from the 1930 field surveys. Those in charge of the scouting work, maintenance of quarantines and research on corn borer control addressed the meeting.

In parts of the infested area of Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania and New York States there has been a decrease in corn borer population in 1930. In a considerable number of counties the borer population has remained approximately stationary, while in much of New York State and in parts of the other states of the Middle West, the borer population has increased during the season just passed.

Scouting thus far completed indicates substantially less

spread of corn borer into new territory during 1930 than has occurred in any year since 1926.

The following paragraphs and tabular statement are taken from the summary of data compiled by the United States Department of Agriculture and presented at the conference.

The 1930 season in general has been one of contradictions and completely abnormal from both the environmental and biological aspects. It has, however, strikingly illustrated the necessity for continuous effective control of the residue population in the debris.

Even in such an adverse climatic year there were more than a sufficient number of eggs laid to produce outstanding increases had the survival been at all normal.

In the following discussion only the outstanding points of interest are mentioned. A complete analysis of the season will be made when more time has been had for a careful study of the data, since the very abnormality of the season makes hazardous the drawing of untimely conclusions from casually studied data.

The following table summarizes the status of the corn borer in Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and New York:

	Mich.	Ind.	Ohio	Pa.	N. Y.	Total or aver- age
Per cent of infestation, 1930	9.95	1.01	4.49	0.46	5.86	4.35
Borers per infested plant, 1930	1.06	0.43	0.87	0.55	1.16	.81
Maximum borers per plant, 1930	9	6	8	6	9	9
Borers per acre, 1930	1,136	70	494	62	936	540
Borers per 100 plants:						
1930	12.41	.76	5.40	.68	10.23	5.90
1929	15.68	.57	12.80	.96	9.21	7.86
1928	13.97	.33	7.54	.74	9.38	6.39
1927	24.90	..	5.02	5.40	10.24	11.41
1926	11.80	..	7.30	5.40	5.15	7.41
1925	1.18	..	2.17	1.91	1.82	1.77
Percent of change, 1929 to 1930	-21	+33	-58	-29	+11	-25

MICHIGAN

The tremendous reduction in Monroe County in contrast with the heavy increase in Lenawee County was of the greatest interest. When the decrease in total borer population for this area is figured upon the county basis there was a net reduction of 24.2 percent over 1929. The decrease of 350 million borers in Monroe County more than account for this reduction.

Up to and including the deposition of eggs the season was favorable for corn borer development, allowing a heavy accumulation of eggs to take place in Lenawee, Macomb and Oakland Counties. The curtailment of the population, therefore, occurred during the period of larval establishment.

Although the climatic features of the season were similar in both Monroe and Lenawee Counties, the conditions preceding the oviposition period were not so severe in Lenawee as in Monroe, with the result that the bulk of eggs were laid later in July than was the case in Monroe County. They thus escaped the drought conditions occurring during the middle of July. The better synchronization of the deposition of eggs with the weather in Lapeer, Macomb and Oakland Counties is also shown by the comparatively high percentages of survival in comparison to the other portions of this region.

OHIO

The sharp decrease in borer abundance in the heaviest center of infestation, including such counties as Lucas, Wood, Hancock and Seneca, is the chief point of interest. The total borer population in this area was reduced 55.6 percent when taking into consideration the total corn area.

Noteworthy increases also occurred, to wit, in Defiance, Henry and Williams Counties, that in Henry County being particularly important owing to the large acreage of corn involved and the comparatively high level of population attained.

Although conditions were distinctly unfavorable for survival in Monroe County, Mich., and in Fulton and Wood Counties, yet the fact that there were heavy concentrations of borers in the debris in these particular counties no doubt contributed to the marked increases occurring in the counties immediately north and west of this center.

As was the case in the Michigan area, it is of particular interest to note again the percent survival which occurred, together with the total number of eggs which were laid in each county. Had the percent survival been near the average of 15 percent instead of so abnormally low, one can readily visualize the increase that would have occurred. This fact clearly brings out the necessity for continued reduction of the borers in the debris if control is to be obtained in areas with large corn acreages.

PENNSYLVANIA

The weather conditions prevalent in Erie County during the oviposition prevented the deposition of large quantities of eggs. This feature, together with the low percent survival, caused the decrease in abundance in the heaviest-infested area.

NEW YORK

Two points of interest are contained in the data upon abundance for this area. The first was the comparatively high percent of survival of larvae in Chautauqua. As stated before, the chief reducing factor in this area of decrease was the prevalence of low night temperatures during the oviposition period. The second outstanding feature was the extended area of increase occurring in the counties bordering Lake Ontario. Favorable conditions during oviposition and establishment were the contributing factors.

FRUIT FLY QUARANTINE REGULATIONS FURTHER MODIFIED

The Secretary of Agriculture has announced further modifications in the Mediterranean fruit fly quarantine regulations, effective October 15, 1930, because of continued improvement in the situation in Florida. The most important change is the removal of the requirement of sterilization with respect to the shipment of Florida fruit and peppers to the southern and western states.

The release of the requirement of sterilization makes it unnecessary to continue the restrictions on reshipments from the northern to the southern states. Such restrictions are therefore removed and Florida host fruits and vegetables which leave the regulated area under permit are authorized to be reshipped throughout the continental United States.

The improved situation also makes it possible to remove the car-cleaning requirements, under which it was necessary for the various railroads to clean at the unloading point the refrigerator cars which had transported host fruits and vegetables.

The restrictions as to infested areas—that is, premises within one-half mile of points at which infestation may be discovered—remain unchanged. The only area now so classified is located at St. Augustine. At whatever points the Mediterranean fruit fly may hereafter be discovered in the State, the same vigorous clean-up measures will be undertaken as have been employed in the past under similar conditions, and any host fruits and vegetables produced within an area which may be designated as infested as a result of such finding, must be sterilized for interstate movement.

BUSINESS CONDITIONS

Commercial transactions during the week ended September 27, 1930, as indicated by the volume of checks presented for payment outside New York City, registered a decline from the preceding week and were less than the corresponding week in 1929.

Wholesale prices, as a whole, as measured by Fisher's Index, recorded but a fractional decline from the prices of a week ago and were lower when compared with the prices received for commodities a year ago.

Bank loans and discounts of Federal reserve member banks, although showing no change from a week ago, fell off slightly from the level of loans and discounts for the same period in 1929. The average prices for representative stocks registered a decline from a week ago and were lower than the prices paid during the week September 28, 1929. Bonded prices, on the other hand, indicating renewed interest of the public in the bond market, showed increases over both comparative periods. Interest rates for both call and time money for the latest week were at a lower level than either prior period. Business failures were less numerous during the past week than during a week ago.

Movement of commodities by rail, as shown by statistics covering the latest reported week, was less than for either the preceding week or the same week a year ago.

CAR LOADINGS

	Total	Miscellaneous	Merchandise L. C. L.	Other
Week ended September 20	952,512	382,087	244,790	325,626
Preceding week	965,713	386,522	242,728	336,463
Corresponding week, 1929	1,107,395	475,710	271,407	420,278
Corresponding week, 1928	1,144,131	460,303	266,658	415,170

WEATHER CONDITIONS

Precipitation during the week ended September 30 was widespread and mostly substantial in amount, rather generally, between the Great Plains and Appalachian Mountains, according to the weekly report of the Weather Bureau. In practically all the Mississippi Valley the weekly totals ranged from around half an inch to as much as 3 inches, and throughout most of the southern states similar amounts were reported. It continued dry in the middle Atlantic area and little rain fell in the central and northern Great Plains.

The week, as a whole, was much warmer than normal over the eastern states where the weekly mean temperatures ranged from 6 degrees to 10 degrees above normal. In the central sections of the country the averages were near normal, as a rule, being mostly somewhat above in the North and somewhat below in the South. Abnormally cool weather prevailed in the northern Great Plains, where the mean temperatures were from 4 degrees to 9 degrees below normal, and also in much of the far West where they were 3 degrees to 6 degrees below.

There was some slight frost damage to tender crops as far south as the northern Ohio Valley area, but vegetation, in general, escaped serious harm.

The last week in September brought the first general killing frosts and freezing temperatures of the season to the northwestern states. On the morning of September 24 freezing weather was reported from most of Wyoming, and by the 26th temperatures of 32 degrees, or lower, overspread eastern Montana and North Dakota, while two days later freezing was reported from parts of northern Iowa.

TRUCK CROP MARKETS

The peach and plum season is about finished, according to the U. S. Market News Service, so that pears and apples will soon be the only important deciduous fruits available.

Sharp gains were indicated in the carlot movement of western apples and grapes during the week ended September 27. With a total of more than 6,000 cars for the week, grapes took first place. Potatoes increased to about 5,200 and apples required 4,420 cars. Cabbage forwardings were increasing, but onion output was reduced. Pears were still a prominent feature, and tomato shipments totaled nearly 1,200 cars, chiefly from California, Indiana, New Jersey, and Ohio.

The season for cantaloupes and watermelons was nearly ended. Only about 150 cars of each of these products moved last week. Forwardings of plums and fresh prunes, particularly

from Idaho, were sharply reduced. Movement of Florida grapefruit increased to 375 cars, and arrivals from Cuba and Porto Rico were much heavier than a year ago. The first five cars of Florida oranges were reported, and California originated 550 cars of this fruit.

Pear shipments for the week required 1,870 cars. California had decreased to 400 and New York to 230 cars, but Oregon shipped 400 and Washington increased to 670 cars of pears. Peaches will soon be displaced in the market by pears.

Only 345 carloads of peaches were forwarded, 285 of which came from New York. Shipments from California and Washington recently have been much lighter than a year ago.

Total shipments of cabbage increased sharply to 935 cars. New York and Wisconsin each sending 350. Colorado increased to 90 cars and Virginia to 45.

Movement of apples was rapidly gaining. About 4,425 cars were shipped, of which western fruit filled 2,655 and eastern apples 1,770 cars. Washington forwarded the large total of 1,625 cars; Idaho increased to 580, California to 280, and Oregon to 105 cars. In the East, New York was credited with 420, the Virginias with 545, and Michigan and Illinois with 135 cars each.

Combined movement of 33 leading products increased to 26,340 cars, but was still 7,000 less than movement of late September, 1929.

CARLOT SHIPMENTS

Commodity	Sept. 21-27 1930	Sept. 14-20 1930	Sept. 22-28 1929	Total this sea- son to Sept. 27	Total last sea- son to Sept. 28	Total last season
Apples, total	4,424	2,955	5,075	17,106	19,195	102,821
Eastern states	1,770	1,481	3,750	9,017	14,633	51,444
Western states	2,654	1,474	1,316	8,140	4,562	51,377
Cabbage	937	641	891	20,770	27,683	44,144
Carrots	97	107	203	10,094	9,910	12,141
Cauliflower	113	107	329	1,097	1,158	9,540
Cucumbers	80	126	30	7,054	7,195	7,460
Green peas	92	78	52	6,380	4,994	5,197
Mixed deciduous fruit	177	249	158	5,240	4,711	5,192
Mixed vegetables	441	488	406	24,785	26,874	32,430
Peaches	346	1,008	582	37,857	35,172	35,451
Pears	1,800	2,207	1,658	21,352	15,937	21,146
Peppers	44	34	88	2,302	2,720	3,332
Plums and prunes	181	720	780	8,563	5,675	6,046
Spinach	6	2	25	9,371	9,829	10,353
String beans	11	8	51	8,895	7,630	8,641
Tomatoes	1,184	1,206	1,009	27,924	27,805	32,202

CANNED MILK PRODUCTION AND STOCKS

Total stocks as shown in the following table, compiled from the monthly report by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, include all stocks held by manufacturers reporting, whether their

own or stocks of others; whether on their own premises, in storage, or in transit (unsold) for warehouse consignment; and whether sold or contracted for and not delivered.

Unsold stocks include all stocks held by manufacturers which were not sold or under contract for delivery on unfilled orders.

Production figures for August include reports from firms operating approximately 97 percent of the total factories in the United States.

In the comparisons the figures given are from reports made by identical firms.

	Evaporated milk Case goods Pounds	Condensed milk Case goods Pounds	Bulk goods Pounds
Total stocks (35 firms):			
September 1, 1930	244,968,597	30,875,320	24,764,886
August 1, 1930	258,535,848	35,005,980	30,323,797
Total stocks (31 firms):			
September 1, 1930	243,901,301	30,875,320	25,758,466
September 1, 1929	272,358,514	32,142,313	29,203,864
Unsold stocks (24 firms):			
September 1, 1930	197,188,021	26,463,536	6,054,222
August 1, 1930	218,760,667	30,865,510	10,212,436
Unsold stocks (20 firms):			
September 1, 1930	196,359,080	26,463,536	6,947,802
September 1, 1929	186,048,615	26,950,281	8,745,335
Production (35 firms):			
August, 1930	115,727,289	6,293,507	12,117,754
July, 1930	149,005,511	9,300,044	14,311,595
Production (30 firms):			
August, 1930	112,049,741	6,293,507	12,102,854
August, 1929	128,424,575	10,014,642	15,200,271

GERMAN CANNING PROSPECTS

The prospects for autumn vegetables in Germany are more or less satisfactory, according to the American trade commissioner at Hamburg, but in view of the fact that factories in general are exercising the greatest caution, it is probable that the production of canned vegetables will undergo a sharp reduction, particularly as many firms have already either shut their plants down or are only working a few days in the week with reduced personnel.

The canning of fruits also shows a very sharp decline when compared with that of the same period last year. Crops of apricots, peaches and greengages are generally speaking satisfactory, whereas yellow plums have suffered considerably from the heavy rain. The pear crop has suffered appreciably in South Germany, and the prospects for the apple crop are viewed rather unfavorably. Trade in fruit juices is said to be very poor and comparatively little fruit has been purchased by the pressers, due to lack of adequate capital.

The output of the German conserves industry, it appears, has been curtailed considerably, and unless an improvement in consumption justifies increased production, it is thought that the production for the year 1930 will fall considerably below that of earlier years.

REPORT ON ITALIAN TOMATO OUTLOOK

The Foodstuffs Division of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce has just issued as Special Circular No. 311, a report entitled "Italian Canned Tomato Outlook," by the American consul at Naples. This report contains information on the quality, types grown, production of both raw and canned tomatoes, export statistics, trade prospects, etc. Copies of the circular will be mailed to interested American firms upon application to the Bureau at Washington or to any of its district or cooperative offices.

DOMESTIC COMMERCE WORK REORGANIZED

Three special technical divisions are being set up in the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce to replace the former Domestic Commerce Division. In them will be centered the Bureau's domestic marketing and distribution research.

The three new technical divisions are the Merchandising Research Division, the Domestic Regional Division, and the Marketing Service Division. The work of the first will include all studies on the cost of distribution, credit research, and special surveys made in cooperation with trades and industries. The Domestic Regional Division's activities will include all regional commercial surveys within the United States, studies on domestic regional distribution and movement of commodities, and market data handbook work. The Marketing Service Division, working in close cooperation with the others, will provide facilities whereby the individual manufacturers, distributors, and retailers can obtain detailed information and help on their particular merchandising problems.

COMPARISON OF WILT-RESISTANT TOMATOES

A bulletin giving comparisons of wilt-resistant tomatoes in Virginia has been issued by the Virginia Truck Experiment Station at Norfolk. The publication is based on experiments in 1929 to compare yield tests of the Stone, Marglobe and Invincible varieties under conditions which prevail in the Northern Neck section of Virginia. It is listed as bulletin No. 69.

The station has also issued as bulletin No. 67 a pamphlet giving information on the design and operation of commercial sweet potato storage plants.

VITAMINS IN SWEET POTATOES

Sweet potatoes are a good source of vitamins, according to chemists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. This vegetable contains as much vitamin A (the antiophthalmic vitamin) as the leafy vegetables. It contains more vitamin B (the anti-neuritic vitamin) than many other root crops. As a source of vitamin C, sweet potato juice has an antiscorbutic value equal to about one-third that of orange juice and one-half that of peach or pineapple juice.

NEW COMMERCE YEARBOOK ISSUED

Detailed information on business conditions in the United States and its non-contiguous territories and possessions is presented in the 1930 edition of "Commerce Yearbook," Volume I, which has recently been issued. In addition to discussions of the general economic position and progress of the country and recent movements of production and domestic trade, the volume presents and analyzes data on the country's major industries, employment and wages, prices, foreign trade, transportation and communication, and banking and finance.

The volume is available for \$1 from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C., or any District Office of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce.

COOPERATIVE MARKETING AND PURCHASING

A study of cooperative marketing and purchasing has been issued by the U. S. Department of Agriculture as Circular No. 121. It furnishes information based on a count of the active farmers' business associations in 1930, with estimates as to the membership in 1928 for each of the states in the various commodity groups and estimates on the same basis for the business transactions during the 1927-28 marketing season.

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